

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/836,512

Examiner

Azizul Choudhury

Applicant(s)

CHEMTOB, HELEN J.

Art Unit

2145

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 5/2/05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,2,5,6,8,9,11-15,17-19,21-30,33,34 and 36-52.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 4/17/01 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

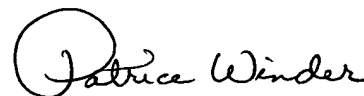
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


PATRICE WINDER
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner's Amendment

An Examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to the applicants, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given over the phone by Stephen Christopher Swift on 8/4/05.

The following are the examiner's amendments to the claims received on May 2, 2005.
Please amend the following claims:

- For claim 2, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."
- For claim 6, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."
- For claim 8, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."
- For claim 9, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."
- For claim 11, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."
- For claim 12, please change "claim 47" to "claim 1."

Please cancel claims 44, 45, 46 and 47.

In addition, please replace claim 1 with the claim 1 listed below.

1. (Currently Amended) A server for communicating content between a group of networked client computers over a communications medium and displaying communications flows identifying a content originator and a content receiver, said server comprising:

- a memory;
- a processor storing and retrieving instructions from said memory;
- a network interface operably connecting said processor to the communications medium;
- a communications module receiving content from an originating computer and transmitting said content to at least one target computer;
- a graphical communication flow module integrated with said communications module and providing to each of the client computers a graphical representation of a group of networked computers, said graphical communication flow module graphically depicting communication flows showing the originating and target computer users corresponding to each content transmission by said communications interface, and having means to graphically depict the intended target of a communication flow in a manner visible to users of all the computers connected to a virtual group;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to graphically depict that a communications flow is intended by an originator to target all computer users connected to the group of networked computers who are participating a virtual meeting of the virtual group;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to graphically depict the originators and targets of more than one communications flow occurring simultaneously between computer users participating in the group meeting;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to enable the originating users to graphically distinguish between communications flows that they intend to be primary and communications flows that they intend to be secondary;

wherein the graphical communications flow module has means to enable an originator to transmit a hidden communications flow to only one target, while indicating the originator and target of the hidden communications flow in a manner perceptible to all users participating in the group meeting.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Azizul Choudhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-3909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Valencia Martin-Wallace can be reached on (571) 272-6159. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

AC


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